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STATE-ARMY-NAVY-AIR FORCE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE

References: a. SANA 5781  
b. SWICC 304/6  
c. SANACC 304/8

Note by the Secretaries

1. The enclosure, a report by an ad hoc Committee, is circulated for consideration by the Committee.
2. The ad hoc Committee believes that the detailed organization of the interdepartmental board and working group proposed in this report should be a responsibility of the Board and the Director. The Committee has, therefore, confined itself to Conclusions setting forth broad terms of reference for the proposed organization.
3. Attention is invited to the divergent views appearing in Paragraph 4 of the Conclusions.

H. W. ROSELEY  
W. A. SCHULGEN  
V. L. LOWRANCE  
Secretariat

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ENCLOSURE

PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE

Report by an Ad Hoc Committee

THE PROBLEM

1. To determine whether at the present time the United States should utilize coordinated psychological measures in furtherance of the attainment of its national objectives; if so what organization is required and what should be its terms of reference.

FACTS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM AND DISCUSSION

2. a. The USSR is conducting an all-out propaganda campaign directed primarily against the United States and is employing coordinated psychological, political and economic measures designed to undermine all non-Communist elements in foreign countries which are capable of opposing Soviet aspirations.

b. In conducting this campaign, the USSR is utilizing all such measures available to it through satellite regimes, Communist parties, and organizations susceptible to Communist influence.

c. The ultimate objective of this campaign is not merely to undermine the prestige of the United States and the effectiveness of its national policy but is designed to weaken and divide foreign opinion to a point where effective opposition to Soviet aspirations is no longer attainable by political, economic or military means.

d. The United States is not now employing coordinated psychological measures to counter this propaganda campaign or to further the attainment of its national objectives.

e. In the present situation the United States has undertaken to defend its vital interest primarily by extending

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economic aid to certain foreign countries. Inadequate employment of other means at the disposal of the United States to support this undertaking is endangering its success. The extent of this aid program and of other United States contributions to world peace is unknown to large segments of the world's population.

f. The President, aware of the urgency of the international situation, has called a Special Session of Congress for November 17.

g. At present the United States is not correlating the information relating to its national security and foreign policy which is disseminated to the American people by many government agencies. Such correlation is essential in order that the American people be fully and accurately informed of the world situation.

h. None of the existing Departments or Agencies of the United States Government is now charged with responsibility for utilizing coordinated psychological measures in furtherance of the attainment of United States national objectives.

i. Taking into account the foregoing considerations the ad hoc Committee has reached the following conclusions:

CONCLUSIONS

3. It is concluded that:

a. The present world situation requires the U.S. immediately to develop and utilize strong and concerted measures designed to produce psychological situations and effects favorable to the attainment of U.S. national objectives.

b. Such measures fall into two main categories:

(1) Measures designed to influence attitudes in foreign countries in a direction favorable to U.S. interests and to counteract effects of anti-American propaganda.

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(2) Measures designed to inform American public opinion of the changing world situation and of the United States foreign policy and national security objectives which necessarily arise therefrom.

4. It is considered that the initial measures under 3 b above should be designed to provide closer coordination of policies, and more effective integration and intensification of operations in the field of informational activities.

5. In order to give effect to the preceding paragraphs of this section there should be established immediately under the (Committee of Two (National Security Council))\*:

a. A high level inter-departmental board to be known as the Information Coordinating Board responsible for the formulation of policies and broad plans pertaining to informational activities and to certain related psychological activities designed to further the foreign policy and national security of the U.S. The initial membership of the Board should include a representative of the Department of State, at the Assistant Secretary level, who shall be Chairman, and representatives of the National Military Establishment (including a representative of the Army, Navy and Air Force Departments, respectively, at the Assistant Secretary level), and a representative of the Central Intelligence Agency. The Board should be empowered in its discretion to provide for the participation of other departments and agencies.

b. A full-time working group under the Board, for the development and implementation of the Board's policies and plans. The Group should be headed by a Director designated by the (Committee of Two (National Security Council))\* on the recommendation of the Board, who should also sit as a member of the Board. The Group should be composed initially of full-time representatives from each department or agency represented on

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the Board and with appropriate of representatives of other Government departments or agencies.\* [The Director] be furnished with such funds, facilities and personnel as may be required to discharge his responsibilities. The Group should include specialized personnel capable of appraising psychological situations, evaluating psychological problems and planning psychological measures. The responsibilities of the Director should be to:

(1) Secure the most effective utilization and coordination of all facilities within the member departments and agencies represented on the Board;

(2) Provide effective liaison with those Government departments and agencies not represented on the Board whose related activities can be profitably employed;

(3) Initiate and develop for the approval of the Board specific plans and programs designed to influence foreign opinion in a direction favorable to U.S. interests;

(4) Initiate and develop for the approval of the Board measures to make available to the American public government information not otherwise obtainable relating to those aspects of the changing world situation which affect U.S. foreign policy and national security.

6. As a matter of priority, the Board should take steps to secure such funds and legislation as may be necessary to establish the organization proposed in paragraph 4 above and to assure performance of the functions proposed therein.

7. The Board and the Director should be furnished by the Central Intelligence Agency with appropriate foreign intelligence.

8. The Board should arrange to have furnished to the Director such classified information as it considers necessary.

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Note: See Appendix

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for the fulfillment of his responsibilities.

9. Pending the establishment of its own secretariat, the Board, should be serviced by the SANACC Secretariat.

10. In carrying out the functions proposed in paragraph 5 above, the Board and the Director should maintain the closest possible liaison with the SANACC Subcommittee on Special Studies and Evaluations, in order that the latter may adequately fulfill its responsibilities as directed in reference c of this paper.

11. Nothing in the charter of the Board should be interpreted so as to derogate from the responsibility of the Secretary of State for the conduct of U.S. foreign relations.

12. No publicity should be given to the Board or the working Group pending further consideration of the problem of publicity by the Board itself..

RECOMMENDATIONS

13. It is recommended that:

a. SANACC approve the above Conclusions, after striking out one of the agencies indicated within large brackets in paragraph 5.

b. After approval by SANACC, the Conclusions of this paper be forwarded to the National Security Council for appropriate action.

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APPENDIX

Outlined below are the divergent views of the Department of State on one hand and the Departments of the Army, Navy, Air Force and the Central Intelligence Agency on the other relating to the location of the Board within the structure of the U.S. government.

1. The Department of State believes that, for the present the Committee of Two is the appropriate high-level authority under which to place the Interdepartmental Board and working group. At this time, full responsibility for policy decisions arising from the work of the Board must rest with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense.

2. The Departments of the Army, Navy and Air Force and the Central Intelligence Agency believe that the establishment of the proposed Information Coordinating Board under the National Security Council, rather than under the Committee of Two, is desirable for the following reasons:

a. The National Security Council has legislative sanction whereas the Committee of Two does not. The Board, under the National Security Council, will therefore be in a better position to secure the funds and personnel necessary for its operations. Such a position will provide justification for its existence as an organ of national security.

b. As an organization necessarily coordinating certain activities of numerous departments and agencies of the government relating to national security, the Board should be directly under the National Security Council which was established by the Congress for the express purpose of "more effectively coordinating the policies and functions of the departments and agencies of the government relating to national security".

c. Since one of the important functions of the Board

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will be to coordinate certain activities of the Central Intelligence Agency, the Board should properly be responsible to the same authority to which the Central Intelligence Agency is by law responsible, namely, the National Security Council.

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